



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2021  
MINUTES**

A meeting of the City Council ("Council") of the Village of The Hills ("the Village") was held remotely. Mayor Wharton called the meeting to order and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Council to wit:

Greg Wharton, Mayor  
Hilda Potsavich, Mayor Pro Tem  
Robert Smith, Councilmember, Secretary

Jim Nelson, Councilmember, Treasurer  
Rodney Thompson, Councilmember  
Zac Carroll, Councilmember

**and all said persons were present thus constituting a quorum.**

Also present were Wendy Smith and Linda Lunney, Village of The Hills; Tom Stiles, POA. Residents Marsa Brooks, Laura Sexton, Sarah Carroll and Earl Wood, MUD attended on Zoom.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Council went into Executive Session at 9:00 a.m.

*The Mayor and City Council may adjourn into Executive Session at any time during the course of this meeting to discuss any matters listed on the agenda, as authorized by the Texas Government Code including, but not limited to, Sections §441.071 (Consultation with attorney), §551.072 (Deliberations about Real Property), §551.073 (Deliberations about Gifts and Donations), §551.074 (Personnel Matters), §551.076 (Deliberations about Security Devices), §551.087 (Economic Development), §418.183 (Deliberations about Homeland Security Issues), and as authorized by the Texas Tax Code including, but not limited to Section 321.3022 (Sales Tax Information).*

- Consultation regarding Lohman's Intersection plans, finances, and agreements.
- Consultation regarding an easement, license agreement, or similar document with ClubCorp.

The Council came out of Executive Session at 9:32 a.m.

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Minutes of July 13, 2021, August 10, 2021 Regular and August 2, 2021 Special Meetings.
2. Finance/Treasurer's Report for August 2021.
3. Quarterly Investment Report for April – June 2021.

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved approval of the consent agenda; Councilmember Carroll seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

## **REPORTS**

### **1. Law Enforcement**

The written report was reviewed showing 7 citations for traffic violations, 16 warnings, and 1 collision.

### **2. POA Liaison**

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich presented her written report:

- Heidi Kelly will be the Chair of the Architectural Committee effective September 1.
- Starting mid-September, the guards will begin checking drivers license and insurance of all trucks and vans who try to enter as "Friend and Family". Signs will be posted at the gates as well as a notice on Nabr to alert residents of the new rule.
- Two Board member positions are up for election. Election packets will be sent to property owners November 1<sup>st</sup> and should be returned by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Voting will begin January 3<sup>rd</sup> to January 20<sup>th</sup>. The Annual Meeting is on January 20, 2022.

### **3. MUD Liaison**

Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich reviewed her written report of the August 16<sup>th</sup> regular and August 20<sup>th</sup> special meetings:

- The Board heard from its Financial Advisor regarding the 2021 proposed tax rate of 0.3022 and 2021-2022 budget. Both were approved and the Public Hearing for adopting the tax rate will be held on September 20, 2021.
- The Board discussed the necessity of maintenance on the water tower near Lohman's Crossing and the repair of the pond liner.
- Most drainage issues have been postponed due to COVID issues at both the MUD and the engineering company.
- The Board considered three candidates to fill the position left by Kevin Paulsen, who moved out of the District. William Coskey was elected.

#### **4. Park Liaison**

Councilmember Smith reported on the most recent meeting:

- The two free libraries are completed. The children's library will be located in the Park and the Commission is deciding on placement of the adult library.
- The Park reservation process is being reviewed.
- HillsFest is on November 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Holiday in the Park dates are being decided.
- Movie in the Park is scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup>. It will be sponsored by citizen donations.
- The next meeting has been moved to October 4<sup>th</sup>.

#### **5. City Manager's Report**

Wendy Smith reported on the following:

- The Lohman's Crossing/Wingreen Loop intersection sidewalk and crosswalk revisions are starting today with no anticipated lane closures.
- We are currently getting quotes for park cleaning and pet station collection.

#### **6. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Wharton's report is covered under Business Items.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

#### **1. Consider and take any action on the November 2, 2021 election.**

Two applications were received to fill two City Councilmember seats, for the November 2, 2021 election. It is recommended the Council take action to cancel the November election by authorizing the Mayor and City Secretary to sign and submit the attached Order of Cancellation.

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved to authorize the Mayor and City Secretary to sign and submit an Order of Cancellation of the November 2 election; Councilmember Smith seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

#### **2. Consider and approve an Ordinance amending the FY 2020-2021 Budget.**

Certain events during the year necessitated budget amends to:

1. Depict revenue from the Limited Tax Note Proceeds in Capital Projects
2. Memorialize Council action pledging General Fund balance for the purchase of new park playscapes
3. Fund unanticipated expenses related to damages from extreme winter weather in February.
4. Transfer funds within the General Fund budget to perform extra tree trimming and landscape improvements in The hills City Park and Nature Trail

*Councilmember Nelson moved approval the Ordinance amending the FY 2020-2021 Budget; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

#### **3. Consider and approve an amendment to the Austin Energy Franchise Agreement for a three-year term.**

As discussed previously, staff continues to engage with other municipalities in the region to address certain elements of the Franchise amendment. It is recommended that a three-year term, instead of

ten years as proposed by Austin Energy be approved so the next contract negotiations align with the end of PEC's franchise term.

*Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich moved approval of a three-year term amendment to the Austin Energy Franchise; Councilmember Nelson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

**4. Discussion and consideration of a request by the Resident at 20 Cottondale to remove City perimeter fence panels for the purpose of pool construction.**

The resident was not able to attend and requested this issue be addressed at the next meeting.

**5. Discussion and consideration regarding creation of a Technology & Infrastructure Commission.**

Mayor Wharton discussed his desire to revoke and replace the Planning Commission with a Technology & Infrastructure Commission. The new Commission would contain no less than three and no more than six members. He hopes to draw on the talents of residents. The Commission would review and improve, where needed, the technology the Village currently uses including website, cell towers, franchises, etc. The Mayor will continue to lay out the Commission requirements and bring it before the Council.

**6. Update regarding Traffic Enforcement**

Mayor Wharton discussed the Joint Meeting of the POA and Village held on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. The purpose of the meeting was to coordinate efforts to build a common plan for public safety and traffic enforcement. Some of the actions resulting from concerns voiced by participants of the meeting are:

- The Village has already increased law enforcement coverage.
- The Council can legislate more regulations such as golf cart usage.
- The need to educate residents on state law regarding drivers of golf carts and the consequences of violating the laws such as parents of underaged drivers being ticketed or vehicles being impounded.
- More speed signs and stop signs are needed.
- A traffic study/traffic count will be conducted.

**7. Update on Walking Trail VTH.003 and .003A.**

Councilmember Smith and Wendy Smith reported that the engineers were designing where the trail will end. Plans are anticipated being completed early, with 90% completed next week.

**8. Update on the Park Playscape.**

Ms. Smith reported the installation of the Playscape is scheduled for the end of December, around the 27<sup>th</sup>.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REQUESTS**

- New business items to be included on the next agenda

1. Request by the Resident at 20 Cottondale to remove City perimeter fence panels for the purpose of pool construction.

2. Technology & Infrastructure Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*Councilmember Carroll moved to adjourn at 10:31 am; Mayor Pro Tem Potsavich seconded the motion which carried unanimously.*

Signed this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2021.

(Seal)



Greg Wharton, Mayor

Linda Lunney, City Secretary